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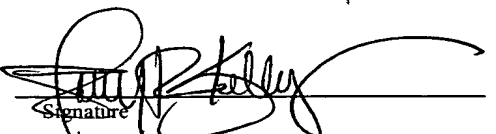
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group: 3738
Attorney
Docket: 26502-64723
Applicant: Enzerink et al.
Invention: **Graft Material Convenience Package**
Serial No: 09/461,829
Filed: December 15, 1999
Examiner: Pellegrino

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

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on April 30, 2001


Signature

Holly R. Kelley
Type Name

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAY 08 2001
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the March 1, 2001 Official Action, please rewrite Claims 1, 12, and 35 as follows. Appendix A, attached, is submitted as a marked-up version of the rewritten claims as required under 37 CFR §1.121(c)(1)(ii).

1. (Amended) A replacement package for the repair of a damaged ligament comprising:
- a graft comprising a non-autologous graft material having a proximal end and a distal end, a first set of sutures attached to the proximal end, and a second set of sutures attached to the distal end,
- wherein the graft is preserved and provided in sterile packaging.

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a2 12. (Amended) A prepackaged sterile replacement ligament comprising:

a non-autologous graft comprising a bundle of graft material strands, the bundle having a proximal end and a distal end, a first set of sutures securing a first bone plug to the proximal end, a second set of sutures securing a second bone plug secured to the distal end, wherein the graft is preserved and provided in sterile packaging.

35. (Amended) A kit for replacing a damaged ligament in a patient comprising a sterile packaged prepared non-autologous replacement ligament having pre-attached sutures for aiding in insertion into the patient, and a graft fixation device.

Please add the following claims:

a4 37. (New) The replacement ligament of claim 12, wherein the graft is an allograft.

38. (New) The kit of claim 35, wherein the replacement ligament is an allograft.

39. (New) The kit of claim 35, further comprising a plurality of the sterile packaged prepared non-autologous replacement ligaments wherein the ligaments are provided in a variety of lengths.

REMARKS

Abstract

Applicants submit herewith an Abstract, on a separate page, as requested by the Examiner.

Rejections under 35 USC §103

The Examiner has rejected under 35 USC §103 claims 1-15 and 35-36. The Examiner supports his rejections with a number of references, including Bodell (US Patent

GAU 3738

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)

Applicant(s): Enzerink et al.

Docket No.

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December 15, 1999

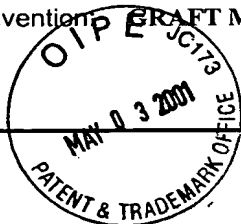
Examiner

Pellegrino

Group Art Unit

3738

Invention: DRAFT MATERIAL CONVENIENCE PACKAGE

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	20 -	36 =	0 x	\$18.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	3 -	5 =	0 x	\$80.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00

- ☐ No additional fee is required for amendment.
☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____
 A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
☐ A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0435
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☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Dated: April 30, 2001

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Jill T. Powlick, Registration No. 42,088

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